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Thank You

to all the
producers who
participated in our
recent surveys. The
results you requested
are in this issue.

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WHEAT PRICE HIGHEST SINCE 1996

The **Index of Prices Received** by farmers and ranchers in **Wyoming** for agricultural commodities sold during September was 106 percent of the 1990-1992 base. The index was up 4 points (4 percent) from last month, but was down 2 points (2 percent) from September 2001. The All Crops Index was up 27 points (25 percent) from last month and up 18 points (15 percent) from September 2001. Prices for corn, oats, feed barley, all wheat, dry beans, alfalfa, and other hay were all higher than last month. Wheat prices hit a six-year high for Wyoming. The All Livestock Index was up 5 points (5 percent) from last month, but was down 6 points (6 percent) from last year. Prices for steers and heifers and sheep were higher than last month, but prices for cows, calves, and lambs were lower. The seasonal changes in the mix of commodities farmers sell also affect the overall indexes. Increased dry bean marketings pushed the index for crops upward from August.

The **Index of Prices Received for Livestock**, at 100, was up 5 points from August but 6 points lower than September 2001. Sheep prices, at \$24.00 per hundredweight, were 30 cents higher than last month, but \$3.90 lower

than last year. Lamb prices averaged \$80.00 per hundredweight, 10 cents lower than last month but \$28.30 higher than September 2001. Steer and heifer prices, at \$78.40 per hundredweight, were up \$1.80 from August but \$9.50 lower than last year. Cow prices, at \$36.50 per hundredweight, were down 40 cents from last month and \$6.70 lower than last September. Calf prices averaged \$93.00 per hundredweight, down \$2.00 from last month and down \$16.00 from last year.

The **Index of Prices Received for Crops**, at 137, was up 27 points from last month and up 18 points from last year. Wheat, at \$4.40 per bushel, was up 59 cents from last month, \$1.75 higher than September 2001, and the highest monthly average price since July 1996. Alfalfa hay was up \$1.00 from last month to \$111.00 per ton, but was unchanged from last year. Other hay prices averaged \$106.00 per ton, also \$1.00 higher than August but \$1.00 per ton lower than last year. The average corn price, at \$2.80 per bushel, was up 13 cents from last month and 60 cents higher than September 2001. Oats averaged \$2.15 per bushel, up 3 cents from August and 73 cents higher than last year. Feed barley, at \$2.15 per bushel, was 11 cents higher than last month and 12 cents higher than last year. Dry beans averaged \$26.00 per hundredweight, up \$1.00 from August and \$7.00 higher than last year.

UNITED STATES: The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in September was 99, based on 1990-92=100, down 1 point (1 percent) from the August index. Lower prices for hogs, potatoes, lettuce, and strawberries more than offset increased prices for wheat, corn, broccoli, and broilers. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell also affects the overall index. Decreased marketings of cattle, wheat, broilers, and grapes more than offset increased marketings of soybeans, corn, peanuts, and potatoes.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is also 7 points (7 percent) below September 2001. Lower prices for milk, broilers, hogs, and lettuce more than offset higher prices for corn, wheat, soybeans, and broccoli.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS AND RANCHERS, SEPTEMBER 2001, AUGUST 2002, AND SEPTEMBER 15, 2002 U.S. PRICES AS PERCENT OF PARITY									
COMMODITY	UNIT	WYOMING			UNITED STATES				
		SEPT 2001	AUG 2002	SEPT 15 2002	SEPT 2001	AUG 2002	SEPT 15 2002	% OF PARITY	
		Dollars			Dollars			Percent	
LIVESTOCK AND PRODUCTS									
	Cows	100#	43.20	36.90	36.50	40.80	36.40	35.40	—
	Steers & Heifers	100#	87.90	76.60	78.40	72.10	67.10	67.60	—
	Calves	100#	109.00	95.00	93.00	107.00	94.40	93.00	44
	Sheep	100#	27.90	23.70	24.00	29.90	26.40	1/	—
	Lambs	100#	51.70	80.10	80.00	52.50	75.00	1/	—
CROPS									
	Corn	Bu.	2.20	2.67	2.80	1.91	2.38	2.56	39
	Oats	Bu.	1.42	2.12	2.15	1.39	1.68	1.75	44
	Feed Barley	Bu.	2.03	2.04	2.15	1.71	2.09	2.06	—
	All Wheat	Bu.	2.65	3.81	4.40	2.85	3.63	4.07	15
	Dry Beans	100#	19.00	25.00	26.00	19.10	23.40	17.80	37
	Alfalfa Hay (Baled)	Ton	111.00	110.00	111.00	108.00	101.00	102.00	—
	Other Hay (Baled)	Ton	107.00	105.00	106.00	71.90	71.30	74.80	—

1/Mid-month prices discontinued January 1996.

NOTE: Entire month price is a revision of previous mid-month price except for hay which is always a mid-month price.

INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS & RANCHERS, WYOMING & U.S.						
1990-92 = 100	WYOMING			UNITED STATES		
	SEPT 2001	AUG 2002	SEPT 15 2002	SEPT 2001	AUG 2002	SEPT 15 2002
All Commodities	108	102	106	106	100	99
All Crops	119	110	137	103	114	111
All Livestock and Products	106	95	100	111	87	86

SMALLEST WYOMING SUGARBEET PRODUCTION EXPECTED SINCE 1984

The October 1 production forecast for sugarbeet production in Wyoming in 2002 is down 15 percent from last year, down 37 percent from 2000, and the smallest crop since 1984. Total alfalfa production is expected to be the same as last year but down 11 percent from 2000. Other hay production in the State is expected to be up 7 percent from last year's drought-reduced crop, but down 4 percent from 2000. Total hay production is forecast up 2 percent from last year but down 8 percent from 2000. Dry bean production is expected to be 26 percent above last year, but 26 percent below 2000.

Sugarbeet growers intend to harvest 37,500 acres in Wyoming this year with a forecast average yield of 19.5 tons per acre. Total production would be 731,000 tons, the smallest since 1984. Acreage for harvest is 10 percent below last year and 33 percent below 2000. **Dry bean** production is expected to total 567,000 hundredweight from 27,000 harvested acres. The October 1 yield forecast is 2,100 pounds per acre which would be down 40 pounds from last year. If realized, production would be up 26 percent from last year due to more acreage but would still be 26 percent less than in 2000.

Alfalfa hay production is forecast at 1.28 million tons, the same as 2001 but down 11 percent from 2000. Harvested area is expected to total 580,000 acres with an average yield of 2.2 tons per acre. Acreage and yield are unchanged from 2001 when drought also reduced production. **Other hay** production is forecast at 649,000 tons, up 7 percent from 2001 but down 4 percent from 2000. Producers expect to harvest 590,000 acres of other hay with an average yield of 1.1 tons per acre. Last year other hay averaged 1.1 tons per acre on 550,000 acres. **All hay** production is forecast at 1.93 million tons, up 2 percent from last year.

UNITED STATES: Sugarbeet production is forecast at 28.6 million tons, up slightly from the September 1 forecast and 11 percent above last year's production. Growers in the 12 sugarbeet-producing States expect to harvest 1.37 million acres, 10 percent above last year. The yield is forecast at 20.9 tons per acre, 0.1 ton above September and 0.2 ton above 2001.

Production of **alfalfa** and alfalfa mixtures is forecast at 74.7 million tons, virtually unchanged from August, but down 7 percent from last year. Yields are expected to average 3.09 tons, which is the same as August but down 0.28 ton from last year. Harvested area is 24.1 million acres, up 1 percent from 2001. **All other hay** production is forecast at 75.8 million tons, 3 percent below the August forecast and 1 percent below last year. Yields are expected to average 1.87 tons per acre, down 0.05 ton from the August forecast and 0.06 ton below 2001. Harvested acreage is estimated at 40.6 million acres, up 2 percent from 2001.

Dry edible bean production is forecast at 27.6 million cwt. in 2002, up 1 percent from the August forecast and 41 percent above last year. This would be the largest dry bean crop since 1999 when production was 33.1 million cwt. The expected production increase resulted from both more acreage harvested and a better average yield per acre.

Corn for grain production is forecast at 8.97 billion bushels, up 1 percent from last month but down 6 percent from 2001. Yields are expected to average 127.2 bushels per acre, up 1.8 bushels from September but down 11.0 bushels from last year. If realized, production would be at the lowest level since 1995.

ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION 2001; FINAL SMALL GRAINS AND OCTOBER 1 ROW CROP FORECASTS, 2002

Crop	Planted		Harvested		Yield per Harvested Acre		Production		
	2001	2002	2001	Oct 2002	2001	Oct 2002	2001	Oct 2002	02/01 %
	1,000 Acres		1,000 Acres		1,000				
WYOMING									
Corn-Grain (bu) 1/	90	80	51	44	125	2/	6,375	2/	
Winter Wheat (bu) 3/	160	150	120	120	24	19	2,880	2,280	79%
Spring Wheat (bu) 3/	8	9	6	4	28	24	168	96	57%
Oats (bu) 3/	75	70	28	15	48	54	1,344	810	60%
Barley (bu) 3/	100	90	85	70	82	70	6,970	4,900	70%
Sugarbeets (tons)	48.5	40.0	41.6	37.5	20.6	19.5	857	731	85%
Dry Beans (cwt)	24	30	21	27	21.4	21.0	450	567	126%
Alfalfa Hay (tons)	—	—	580	580	2.20	2.20	1,276	1,276	100%
Other Hay (tons)	—	—	550	590	1.10	1.10	605	649	107%
All Hay (tons)	—	—	1,130	1,170	1.66	1.65	1,881	1,925	102%
UNITED STATES									
Corn-Grain (bu) 1/	75,752	78,947	68,808	70,541	138.2	127.2	9,506,840	8,969,836	94%
Winter Wheat (bu) 3/	41,078	41,735	31,295	29,651	43.5	38.5	1,361,479	1,142,802	84%
Spring Wheat (bu) 3/	15,609	15,714	14,549	13,613	35.2	29.5	512,008	401,589	78%
Oats (bu) 3/	4,403	5,005	1,905	2,098	61.4	56.8	117,024	119,132	102%
Barley (bu) 3/	4,967	5,073	4,289	4,135	58.2	54.9	249,420	226,873	91%
Sugarbeets (tons)	1,370.8	1,408.8	1,243.6	1,370.8	20.7	20.9	25,787	28,619	111%
Dry Beans (cwt)	1,429.9	1,874.3	1,243.0	1,690.6	15.72	16.32	19,541	27,594	141%
Alfalfa Hay (tons)	—	—	23,812	24,134	3.37	3.09	80,266	74,655	93%
Other Hay (tons)	—	—	39,699	40,575	1.93	1.87	76,437	75,792	99%
All Hay (tons)	—	—	63,511	64,709	2.47	2.32	156,703	150,447	96%

1/Corn planted for all purposes, harvested for grain.

2/Forecasts no longer made. Final estimates released January 10, 2003.

3/End of year estimate.

COMBINED SMALL GRAIN PRODUCTION IN WYOMING LOWEST SINCE 1940

Final estimates of the season for small grain production indicate sharply reduced winter wheat, spring wheat, oats, and barley crops from last year and the smallest total production of the four crops in Wyoming since 1940. Average yields per acre were unusually low for all the crops as the third year of drought conditions sapped irrigation water and soil moisture. Fewer acres than last year were also harvested for oats, barley, and spring wheat resulting in production declines of 40, 30, and 43 percent for these crops. Winter wheat production was off 21 percent from last year due to the lower yield per acre.

Winter wheat production in 2002 is estimated at 2.28 million bushels, the smallest in the State since 1965. Production was down 21 percent from the 2001 crop and 63 percent below the pre-drought 1999 crop. Yields averaged 19 bushels per harvested acre this year, down 5 bushels from last year and 2000, and 14 bushels below 1999's average of 33 bushels. Harvested area totaled 120,000 acres, unchanged from a year ago which was the smallest since 1940.

Spring wheat production in 2002 is estimated at 96,000 bushels, down 43 percent from 2001 and the smallest spring wheat crop on record dating back to 1909. Average yield dropped 4 bushels from last year to 24 bushels per acre, the lowest yield since 1981. Only 4,000 acres were harvested for spring wheat in 2002, down 2,000 from last year and the fewest since 1991.

Barley production in Wyoming in 2002 totaled 4.90 million bushels, a 30 percent decrease from last year, 38 percent below 2000, and the smallest crop since 1967. Yields averaged 70 bushels per harvested acre, down 12 bushels from last year and the lowest average yield since 1989 when yields also averaged 70 bushels per acre. Farmers harvested 70,000 acres for barley, down 15,000 acres from 2001 and the smallest acreage since 1937.

Oats production is estimated at 810,000 bushels, down 40 percent from 2001 and the smallest oats crop in Wyoming since 1900. The average yield, at 54 bushels per acre, was 6 bushels above last year. Of the 70,000 acres planted to oats, only an estimated 15,000 acres were harvested for grain in 2002, down from 28,000 from last year and the smallest acreage on record.

UNITED STATES: The 2002 **winter wheat** production is estimated at 1.14 billion bushels, the lowest level since 1970. This is down 1 percent from the August forecast and 16 percent below the 2001 level. The U.S. yield averaged 38.5 bushels per acre, 5.0 bushels below last year's final yield. Acreage for grain is estimated at 29.7 million acres, the smallest harvested area since 1917.

Spring wheat (other than durum) production is estimated at 402 million bushels, down 22 percent from 2001. The U.S. yield is 29.5 bushels per acre, 5.7 bushels below last season.

Oats production is estimated at 119 million bushels, 16 percent below the August 1 forecast, but 2 percent above last year's record low 117 million bushels. The estimated yield is 56.8 bushels per acre, 4.6 bushels below 2001. Area for harvest is estimated at 2.10 million acres, up 10 percent from a year ago.

Barley production is estimated at 227 million bushels, down 10 percent from the August forecast and down 9 percent from last year's estimate. This year's production is the lowest since 1937. Average yield per acre, at 54.9 bushels, is down 3.3 bushels from 2001. The area harvested for grain is estimated at 4.14 million acres, 4 percent below a year ago and the lowest level since 1898.

U.S. CATTLE ON FEED DOWN 7 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.13 million head on September 1, 2002. Inventory was 7 percent below September 1, 2001 and 2 percent below September 1, 2000.

Placements in August totaled 2.22 million, 1 percent above 2001 but 9 percent below 2000. Placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 525,000, 600-699 pounds were 483,000, 700-799 pounds were 625,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 585,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during August totaled 2.14 million, 2 percent below 2001 and 3 percent below 2000.

Cattle on feed September 1, 2002, in the historic 7 monthly States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 8.85 million, down 6 percent from the previous year and 1 percent below September 1, 2000.

CATTLE ON FEED: 1000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS, SELECTED STATES AND UNITED STATES, SEPTEMBER 1, 2001-2002 1/						
State	On Feed Aug 1, 2002	Place- ments Aug 2002	Market- ings Aug 2002	Other Disapp. Aug 2002	On Feed Sept 1, 2002	On Feed Sept 1, 2001
	Thousand Head					
CO	990	245	230	5	1,000	1,010
KS	2,140	570	470	10	2,230	2,490
NE	1,790	445	380	5	1,850	1,820
TX	2,740	530	580	10	2,680	2,990
Oth Sts.	2,429	428	475	13	2,369	2,545
U.S.	10,089	2,218	2,135	43	10,129	10,855

1/ Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

WYOMING MILK PRODUCTION UP 3 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

The number of milk cows in **Wyoming** during July-September 2002 averaged 4,500 head. The number of cows was down 2 percent from the previous quarter, but unchanged from the same quarter one year ago. Milk production during 2002's third quarter was 16.7 million pounds, also down 2 percent from the previous three months, but 3 percent more than the same quarter last year.

UNITED STATES: The July-September quarterly production of milk in the U.S. was 42.0 billion pounds, 3 percent above the same period last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the quarter was 9.16 million head, 61,000 head or one percent more than the same period last year.

MILK COWS AND PRODUCTION, SELECTED STATES AND U.S., JUL-SEP, 2001 AND 2002					
State	Milk Cows 1/		Milk Production 2/		Change from 2001
	2001	2002	2001	2002	
	1,000 Head		Million Pounds		Percent
WY	4.5	4.5	16.2	16.7	3.1
CA	1,598	1,651	8,349	8,842	5.9
CO	92	103	489	558	14.1
ID	370	394	2,015	2,126	5.5
MT	19	18	88	88	0
NE	70	67	275	283	2.9
SD	99	96	393	346	- 12.0
UT	93	93	419	432	3.1
WI	1,284	1,266	5,464	5,514	0.9
US	9,098	9,159	40,570	41,965	3.4

1/Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/Excludes milk sucked by calves.

U.S. RED MEAT PRODUCTION UP 2 PERCENT

Commercial red meat production in *Wyoming* during August 2002 totaled 900,000 pounds. This is up 63 percent from July 2002 and up 42 percent from August 2001. Commercial red meat production excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

Nine hundred **cattle** were slaughtered, up 300 head from August 2001. Total liveweight was 1,074,000 pounds, up 44 percent from August 2001. Average liveweight of cattle slaughtered was 1,223 pounds, 31 pounds heavier than last year.

Twelve hundred **hogs** and **pigs** were processed, 300 hundred more than last year. Total liveweight, at 307,000 pounds, was up 39 percent from last year. Average liveweight of hogs slaughtered was 251 pounds, up 8 pounds from August 2001.

Four hundred **sheep** and **lambs** were processed totaling 54,000 pounds liveweight. Average liveweight of sheep and lambs slaughtered was 130 pounds, down 6 pounds from a year earlier.

January - August red meat production was 3.9 million pounds, up 18 percent from last year.

UNITED STATES: Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.14 billion pounds in August, up 2 percent from the 4.06 billion pounds produced in August 2001.

Beef production, at 2.47 billion pounds, was 2 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.21 million head, down 1 percent from August 2001. The average liveweight was 1,259 pounds, up 31 pounds from August a year ago.

Pork production totaled 1.64 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.54 million head, 2 percent above August 2001. The average liveweight was 259 pounds, up 1 pound from August a year ago.

Lamb and mutton production, at 16.6 million pounds, was down 11 percent from August 2001. Sheep slaughter totaled 264,600 head, 3 percent below last year. The average liveweight was 126 pounds, down 11 pounds from August a year ago.

January - August red meat production was 31.1 billion pounds, 4 percent above the previous year. Accumulated beef production was up 5 percent from last year, pork was up 3 percent, and lamb and mutton production was down 3 percent.

COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER, AUGUST 2001 AND 2002, Wyoming and U.S.										
SPECIES	WYOMING					UNITED STATES				
	Number of Head		Total Liveweight			Number of Head		Total Liveweight		
	Aug 2001	Aug 2002	Aug 2001	Aug 2002	% 02/01	Aug 2001	Aug 2002	Aug 2001	Aug 2002	% 02/01
			1,000 Pounds					1,000 Pounds		
Cattle	600	900	745	1,074	144	3,239,400	3,213,300	3,976,718	4,045,025	102
Hogs	900	1,200	221	307	139	8,374,700	8,544,200	2,159,367	2,211,934	102
Sheep & Lambs	300	400	34	54	159	273,400	264,600	37,477	33,351	89